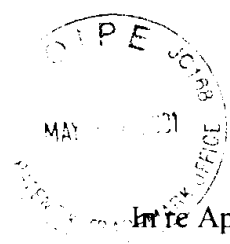


#5A

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. MBHB00,882-C 250/131)



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In re Application of:

Chowrira et al.

Serial No.: 09/653,225

Filed: August 31, 2000

For: **METHOD AND REAGENT FOR THE
INHIBITION OF TELOMERASE
ENZYME**

)
)
) Group Art Unit: 1651

)
) Examiner: Not Assigned

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicant respectfully request that this amendment be entered prior to examination of the above-mentioned application on the merits. It is believed that no fee is due for filing this response; however, if a fee is due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 132490.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following paragraph below the title:

A1 "This patent application claims priority to U.S. provisional application serial number 60/151,713 filed on August 31, 1999, and U.S. provisional application serial number 60/197,769 filed on March 14, 2000. Each of these applications are hereby incorporated by reference herein in their entirety including the drawings."

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, on May 11, 2001.

Date: May 11, 2001

Anita J. Terpetra